

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Köster et al.

Serial No.: 08/933,792

Filed: September 19, 1997

For: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR  
IMMOBILIZING NUCLEIC ACIDS  
TO SOLID SUPPORTS

Group Art Unit: 1623

Examiner: Kunz, Z.

Gp 1623;  
#16  
8274  
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington,  
D.C. 20231, on this date.

08/18/99

Date

Stephanie L. Seidman



**RESPONSE**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed, August 2, 1999, consideration of  
the following remarks is respectfully requested.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-5, 7-24 are pending in the application. The Office Action urges  
that the previous response was not fully responsive to the prior Office Action.  
The only rejection in the prior Office Action was a rejection under 35 U.S.C.  
§101 for statutory double patenting. To address this issue, claim 6 was  
cancelled, and claims 1 and 9, the independent claims were amended to  
incorporate limitations from claim 6 that were not identically claimed in the  
parent application U.S. application Serial No. 08/746,036, which is now U.S.  
Patent No. 5,900,481. Therefore, the previous response was fully responsive.

**Basis in the specification**

Furthermore, since claims 1 and 9 incorporate limitations from cancelled  
claim 6, claims 1-5 and 10-14 find particular basis in original claims 1-14.  
Claims 15-24 were added. These claims find particular basis in specification as  
originally filed.